

Perth Amboy Feb^r 11th 1777

as I have great reason to believe
that a ship will sail in a few days for
England, I am determin'd not to miss that
opportunity of informing my Dearest Friend
that I am well though almost starved to
death with continual alerts & frequent night
duty. you will have heard I believe indeed
I informed you so before / that the rebels
have of late turned the tables upon us;
I am in hopes & have not the smallest
doubt but that we shall soon return them
Part of the troops that had been sent to
Rhode Island the beginning of the winter have
been recalled & are to be sent into the Jersey
if General Howe would send them to Elizabeth

Town & so march from thence, from Brunswick
from Bonum Town & from Lenoir, (which are our
present posts) all at once, I think we might
very easily give Mr Washington such a drubbing
at Morris town (if he staid) as he would not
like, if he would not fight us, I would destroy
that whole County the chief seat of Rebellion
& Sedition, & he would then be obliged to
Repay the Delaware which he might also find
difficult if properly pursued. I am credibly
informed that he has not above nine thousand
men with him in the Jerseys though the Country
people say he has between twenty & thirty. our
army are in great want of Intelligence & it
is among the difficulty we meet with in getting
any to be depended on, I believe Admiral
Grecious was not far out in his remark when
he said the friends of Government might all

be continued in
~~and~~ a single canoe, I am pretty sure there
are not three Americans in the whole country
that are so well hearted. We had a little
brush with them the other day near Brunswick
they attacked a foraging party of ours & were beat
off with considerable loss we had only a Captain
Cunningham of the Light Infantry, ^{killed} & about ten
men killed & wounded I had a Surgeon of My own
killed. The service the Surgeons are now employed
on is a very harassing & a very dangerous one
re patrolling the roads & carrying letters & supplies
from Post to Post, neither of which Duties we
can scarce ever perform without being shot at
I have within these six days had a Man & Horse
killed another Man Wounded & his horse shot dead
under him & he was taken by 3 or four of them
who had fired at him, he watched his opportunity
& knocked two of them down with the butt of
his carbine & escaped. My Lieut has Chiricua

been shot through the thigh I ~~thought~~ ^{got a ball} through
my Greek coat. they rich of a good thing
as in this shabby method, but it makes
the best Soldiers twice as good as any drilling
in time of Peace. I think we are now a very good
Regt. So much for the Military, now my Dear friend
I expect in return for all this nonsense that
you give me a full & particular account of all
the scandal & news both in England & at Berlin
where by this time I suppose you have your
Maison bien Montée, I hope you have removed
that damned heavy saddle of eight hundred
of your back & ^{are} out to be road all your life
by one much better to carry you; if you see Mr
Bargoyne in England write me your real opinion
as to his health looks & spirits. Love to your Mother
& Requests to the rest of your family & compliments to all
friends if I have any that ever ask often me. A Belieu
me My Dearest Eliza yours invariably
Love to Lillie & to Mrs. & Miss to Capt. Thos Stanley